



## PRESS RELEASE

### EU supports Legal protection for economic operators of Central Asia

ROME - 23-24 November 2015 – In the framework of the Rule of Law Initiative for Central Asia, a regional seminar on Legal Protection for economic operators was held today in Rome with the support of the EU and the Italian Ministry of Justice.

This seminar was hosted by the Supreme Cassation Court of Italy in association with the Italian Competition Authority and the University of Rome La Sapienza. During these two days participants from Central Asia countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) engaged into dialogue and exchanges of experience on economic and commercial law, and shared best practices and regulations governing the economic environment based on the European experience. The development of economic legislation will ensure legal security, prerequisite for an improvement of the business climate and sustainable economic development of the countries. The seminar will be followed by a visit of Italian rule of law institutions.

At the Fourth Ministerial Conference (Astana, 14-15 November 2014), the Ministers of Justice of the European Union and Central Asia “stressed the paramount importance of the economic regulatory environment for business, as an integral part of the rule of law”. They noted that “international investment may only develop if a stable level-playing field is established for business activities, including amongst other regulations and practices, enforcement of contracts and property rights, tax and trans-border trading regulation”.

The seminar was organized by the EU-Central Asia Rule of Law Platform project. This EU project acts as a support mechanism to facilitate policy dialogue and promote the measures contributing to legal reforms in each of the Central Asian countries. The Platform is being funded by the European Union to the amount of EUR 1,8 million and is implemented by IBF International Consulting.

**Venue:** Supreme Cassation Court of Italy, Rome

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